

Hurricane Force Winds in Wisconsin 1970-2004

This 35-year climatology for the state of Wisconsin consists of **thunderstorm related** winds events of 75 mph or greater as documented in the *Storm Data* publication. It is worth noting that *Storm Data* lists numerous severe wind events over the years without an estimate or measurement of wind speed and are thus not included in this climatology. Also, when the same storm event registered high winds in neighboring counties, each county is accounted for, however, the few times that multiple winds at or above 75 mph were reported in the same county from the same event, only the highest wind was included in the report. All winds at or above 100 mph were included in this study. Consider each entry below a “county wind event” for the bean-counts.

Hurricane force winds are defined as sustained winds of 74 mph or higher. In the past 35 years, Wisconsin has experienced winds of 75 mph or higher on 162 days, or about 4.6 days per year on average. The only this didn’t happen was in 1978. A total of 409 hurricane-force “county wind events” have been documented. This results in an average of 11.7 county wind events occur per year (hurricane-force thunderstorm winds).

Thunderstorm wind gusts of 100 + mph, similar to those of a Category 2 Hurricane, occurred in 14 years of the 35 year study, or about once every 2.5 years. A total of 57 county hurricane-force wind events occurred during the period of 1970-2004, for an average of 1.6 events per year, or alternatively, 4.1 events occurred in Wisconsin for those years that did have hurricane-force thunderstorm wind gusts. It is noteworthy that many of these events occurred on the same calendar day.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>WIND SPEED</u>	
<u>1970</u>			
September 21 st	Oneida	115 mph	**
<u>1971</u>			
February 26 th - 27 th	Statewide (<u>all 72 counties</u>)	75-80 mph	
June 19 th	Milwaukee	76 mph	
August 10 th	La Crosse	75 mph	
August 10 th	Winnebago	95 mph	
<u>1972</u>			
June 3 rd	Winnebago	75 mph	
<u>1973</u>			
June 18 th	Pepin	75-80 mph	
	Eau Claire	75-80 mph	
	Buffalo	75-80 mph	
	Trempealeau	75-80 mph	
	Jackson	75-80 mph	
	Clark	75-80 mph	
	Wood	75-80 mph	
	Portage	75-80 mph	

	Waupaca	75-80 mph	
	Outagamie	75-80 mph	
	Brown	75-80 mph	
	Kewaukee	75-80 mph	
	La Crosse	75-80 mph	
	Monroe	75-80 mph	
	Juneau	75-80 mph	
	Adams	75-80 mph	
	Waushara	75-80 mph	
	Winnebago	75-80 mph	
	Calumet	75-80 mph	
	Manitowoc	75-80 mph	
	Marquette	75-80 mph	
	Green Lake	75-80 mph	
	Fond du Lac	75-80 mph	
	Sheboygan	75-80 mph	
August 9 th	Milwaukee	80 mph	
<u>1974</u>			
May 21 st	Milwaukee	75 mph	
<u>1975</u>			
January 11 th	Fond Du Lac	77 mph	
March 28 th	La Crosse	77 mph	
April 3 rd	Vernon	75-80 mph	
	Crawford	75-80 mph	
	Richland	75-80 mph	
	Sauk	75-80 mph	
	Columbia	75-80 mph	
	Dodge	75-80 mph	
	Washington	75-80 mph	
	Ozaukee	75-80 mph	
	Grant	75-80 mph	
	Iowa	75-80 mph	
	Dane	75-80 mph	
	Jefferson	75-80 mph	
	Waukesha	75-80 mph	
	Milwaukee	75-80 mph	
	Lafayette	75-80 mph	
	Green	75-80 mph	
	Rock	75-80 mph	
	Walworth	75-80 mph	
	Racine	75-80 mph	
	Kenosha	75-80 mph	
May 19 th	Dane	>75 mph	
June 22 nd	Grant	>90 mph	
August 21 st	Pepin	>100 mph	**

1976

June 13 th	Monroe	80 mph
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1977

July 4 th	Price	>100 mph	**
	Sawyer	135 mph	**
	Oneida	>100 mph	**
July 6 th	Jefferson	80 mph	
August 31 st	Eau Claire	80 mph	

1978

none reported/verified

1979

April 5 th	Statewide (<i><u>all 72 counties</u></i>)	>75 mph
June 20 th	Fond Du Lac	75-90 mph

1980

June 5 th	La Crosse	75-90 mph	
June 27 th	Clark	75 mph	
July 5 th	Fond Du Lac	75-90 mph	
July 9 th	Rock	75-80 mph	
July 10 th	Bayfield	80 mph	
July 11 th	Pierce	75-80 mph	
	St. Croix	75-80 mph	
July 15 th	Walworth	75-80 mph	
	St. Croix	75-120 mph	**
	Pierce	75-120 mph	**
	Dunn	75-120 mph	**
	Pepin	75-120 mph	**
	Chippewa	75-120 mph	**
	Eau Claire	75-120 mph	**
July 20 th	Adams	75-80 mph	
	Columbia	75-80 mph	
August 2 nd	Green	75-80 mph	
	Rock	75-80 mph	
August 4 th	Waukesha	93 mph	
	Kenosha	92 mph	
August 6 th	Washburn	80-90 mph	
August 7 th	Dodge	75-80 mph	
	Jefferson	75-80 mph	
August 19 th	Monroe	75-80 mph	
	Wood	75-80 mph	
August 20 th	Wood	75-80 mph	
September 3 rd	Pierce	80 mph	
September 9 th	Winnebago	75-80 mph	

1981

March 29 th	Dane	75-90 mph
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March 31 st	Clark	100 mph	**
May 29 th	Dane	75-80 mph	
August 3 rd	Polk	80 mph	
	Barron	80 mph	
	Rusk	80 mph	
August 6 th	Oconto	80 mph	
August 31 st	Jefferson	80 mph	

1982

April 3 rd	Washington	80 mph	
July 6 th	St. Croix	80-100 mph	**
	Milwaukee	80 mph	
July 17 th	Iron	>100 mph	**
	Vilas	>100 mph	**
	Forest	>100 mph	**
	Price	>100 mph	**
	Oneida	>100 mph	**
	Lincoln	>100 mph	**
	Langlade	>100 mph	**
July 25 th	Jackson	75-80 mph	
August 3 rd	Winnebago	75-85 mph	

1983

July 3 rd	Douglas	>100 mph	**
	Bayfield	>100 mph	**
	Ashland	>100 mph	**
	Burnett	>100 mph	**
	Washburn	>100 mph	**
	Sawyer	>100 mph	**
	Polk	>100 mph	**
	Barron	>100 mph	**
	Rusk	>100 mph	**
July 19 th	St. Croix	100 mph	**
	Barron	75 mph	
	Dunn	80 mph	
	La Crosse	76 mph	
	Winnebago	80 mph	
	Fond Du Lac	80 mph	
	Jefferson	80 mph	
	Rock	75 mph	
	Manitowoc	80-100 mph	**
September 6 th	Oneida	90 mph	

1984

April 27 th	Buffalo	79 mph	
July 9 th	Sawyer	75 mph	
	Rock	75 mph	
	Waukesha	80 mph	
July 14 th	Monroe	75 mph	

	October 16 th	Taylor	75 mph	
<u>1985</u>	June 7 th	La Crosse	78 mph	
	June 8 th	Marinette	80 mph	
<u>1986</u>	June 10 th	Pepin	80 mph	
	June 21 st	Douglas	85 mph	
	July 18 th	Door	80 mph	
	September 26 th	Sheboygan	75 mph	
<u>1987</u>	February 8 th	Rock	86 mph	
	June 18 th	Door	75 mph	
	July 11 th	Shawano	80 mph	
		Marinette	80 mph	
	July 23 rd	St. Croix	80 mph	
	July 29 th	Rock	104 mph	**
		Waukesha	75 mph	
<u>1988</u>	June 19 th	Dunn	79 mph	
	June 22 nd	Door	105 mph	**
	July 11 th	Marathon	75 mph	
<u>1989</u>	May 24 th	Outagamie	87 mph	
		Brown	87 mph	
	June 26 th	Grant	85 mph	
	August 4 th	Milwaukee	75 mph	
	October 15 th	Trempealeau	75 mph	
<u>1990</u>	March 15 th	Waukesha	79 mph	
	June 2 nd	Eau Claire	75 mph	
	June 29 th	Rock	85 mph	
	August 26 th	Clark	91 mph	
		La Crosse	76 mph	
<u>1991</u>	March 27 th	Milwaukee	89 mph	
	June 27 th	Ashland	103 mph	**
	July 7 th	Dane	83 mph	
		Jefferson	80 mph	
		Waukesha	80 mph	
		Ozaukee	79 mph	

1992

May 11 th	Waukesha	80 mph
May 16 th	Taylor	75 mph
June 17 th	Racine	75 mph
June 17 th	Kenosha	86 mph

1993

July 8 th	Milwaukee	77 mph
August 23 rd	Washington	80 mph

1994

April 18 th	Kenosha	80 mph
July 4 th	Milwaukee	77 mph
August 27 th	Sawyer	85 mph
September 13 th	Adams	80 mph

1995

July 9 th	Waushara	75-80 mph
July 15 th	Kenosha	75 mph
August 28 th	Green Lake	75 mph
	Racine	84 mph

1996

April 19 th	Kenosha	80-100 mph	**
May 19 th	Wood	80 mph	
	Buffalo	90 mph	
	Trempealeau	90 mph	
	Jackson	90 mph	
	Clark	85 mph	
	St. Croix	98 mph	
	Pierce	85 mph	
	Dunn	81 mph	
	Pepin	86 mph	
	Chippewa	75 mph	
	Eau Claire	77 mph	
June 29 th	Pierce	81 mph	
July 18 th	Lincoln	81 mph	
July 18 th	Waupaca	100 mph	**
August 7 th	Oneida	81 mph	
October 30 th	Racine	75 mph	

1997

April 6 th	Dodge	82 mph
	Waukesha	75 mph
	Walworth	81 mph
	Kenosha	77 mph
June 15 th	Vernon	81 mph
June 24 th	Waupaca	75 mph
	Dodge	85 mph
July 1 st	Wood	75 mph

	Marathon	81 mph
	Clark	90 mph
July 2 nd	Clark	75 mph
July 16 th	Menominee	98 mph
	Outagamie	82 mph
July 18 th	Kenosha	92 mph
August 3 rd	Waukesha	70-80 mph

1998

May 15 th	Rusk	81 mph	
May 30 th	Pierce	75 mph	
	St. Croix	86 mph	
	Dunn	86 mph	
May 31 st	Marathon	85 mph	
	Winnebago	86 mph	
	Calumet	86 mph	
	Douglas	75 mph	
	Walworth	78 mph	
	Sauk	100-120 mph	**
	Columbia	90-115 mph	**
	Iowa	100-115 mph	**
	Dane	110-120 mph	**
	Lafayette	100 mph	**
	Dodge	100-128 mph	**
	Fond Du Lac	115-125 mph	**
	Green	70-80 mph	
	Jefferson	110-120 mph	**
	Sheboygan	110-120 mph	**
	Washington	115-125 mph	**
	Waukesha	100-110 mph	**
	Ozaukee	100-110 mph	**
	Milwaukee	110-115 mph	**
	La Crosse	75 mph	
	Crawford	79 mph	
	Monroe	75 mph	
	Vernon	79 mph	
	Grant	77 mph	
June 25 th	Door	75 mph	
	Wood	75 mph	
June 27 th	Trempealeau	86 mph	
	Vernon	84 mph	
	Jackson	95 mph	
	Monroe	101 mph	**
July 19 th	Crawford	92 mph	
	Grant	81 mph	
July 20 th	Walworth	100-110 mph	**
July 21 st	Walworth	100-110 mph	**
	Racine	100-110 mph	**
	Kenosha	100-110 mph	**

1999

June 5 th	Dunn	75 mph
	Pepin	75 mph
	Vilas	81 mph
June 6 th	Forest	81 mph
	Ashland	75 mph
	Rock	75 mph
	Waukesha	81 mph
July 8 th	La Crosse	75 mph
July 12 th	Outagamie	75 mph
July 23 rd	Rusk	75 mph
July 30 th	Florence	75 mph
	Price	87 mph
	Rusk	75 mph

2000

May 8 th	Green	81 mph	
May 11 th May 12 th	Waukesha	75 mph	
	Calumet	80 mph	
	Manitowoc	80 mph	
	Milwaukee	75 mph	
	Dane	75 mph	
	Marquette	81 mph	
	Monroe	98 mph	
June 1 st	Juneau	100 mph	**
	Adams	98 mph	
July 2 nd	Waukesha	78 mph	
July 8 th	Chippewa	75 mph	
August 5 th	Green	85 mph	
	Rock	100-115 mph	**
September 1 st	Adams	75 mph	
September 11 th	Dane	75 mph	

2001

April 11 th	Rock	81 mph
April 23 rd	Lincoln	75 mph
May 9 th	Pierce	74 mph
June 11 th	Wood	77 mph
	Waupaca	74 mph
	Winnebago	75 mph
	Outagamie	75 mph
	Price	75 mph
	Burnett	81 mph
	Dodge	81 mph
	Sheboygan	90 mph
	Jackson	75 mph
	Barron	87 mph
	Pierce	75 mph

COUNTY WIND SPEED

2001 Cont

	Rusk	79 mph
	Pepin	75 mph
August 9 th	Door	76 mph
September 7 th	Sauk	75 mph

2002

April 17 th	Dunn	75 mph	
April 18 th	Marathon	75 mph	
May 8 th	Chippewa	81 mph	
June 21 st	Buffalo	81 mph	
July 30 th	Clark	81 mph	
	Adams	81 mph	
	Clark	81 mph	
August 11 th	Dane	81 mph	
August 21 st	Iowa	75 mph	
	Lafayette	81 mph	
	Fond Du Lac	81 mph	
	Waukesha	100 mph	**
	Milwaukee	81 mph	
	Racine	85 mph	
	Milwaukee	75 mph	
September 2 nd	Taylor	81 mph	
	Taylor	81 mph	

2003

June 25 th	Rock	75 mph
July 6 th	Dane	75 mph
July 6 th	Rock	75 mph
July 15 th	Jefferson	75 mph
August 20 th	Grant	81 mph
August 20 th	Grant	75 mph

2004

April 18 th	Vilas	75 mph
	Florence	75 mph
	Green Lake	75 mph
May 21 st	Washington	90 mph
	Ozaukee	75 mph
May 23 rd	Manitowoc	75 mph
	Walworth	75 mph
June 23 rd	Jefferson	92 mph
	Dane	75 mph
	Racine	80 mph
July 16 th	Columbia	75 mph
July 19 th	Trempealeau	75 mph
	Trempealeau	75 mph

July 21 st	La Crosse	75 mph
August 3 rd	Iowa	75 mph
August 26 th	Columbia	75 mph
August 26 th	Columbia	80 mph
August 27 th	Fond du Lac	75 mph

** denotes wind speeds that reached or exceeded 100 mph